

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Confirmation No.: 8182

Masato TSUCHIYA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1792

Application No.: 10/586,873

Examiner: Allan W. OLSEN

Filed: July 21, 2006

Attorney Docket No.: 107242-00035

For: PROCESS CONTROL METHOD IN SPIN ETCHING AND SPIN ETCHING
APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 10, 2009

Sir:

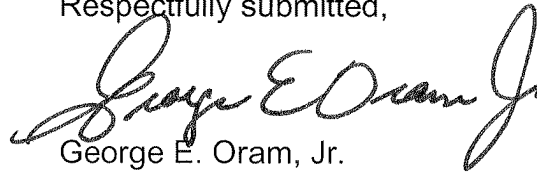
This paper is submitted in response to the Election/Restriction Requirement dated August 21, 2009. Claims 1-7 are pending in the above-identified patent application. Claims 6 and 7 were submitted as new claims in the Preliminary Amendment filed on July 21, 2006.

The Applicants hereby elect Group I, directed to Claims 1-4, 6, and 7, drawn to methods for controlling an etching amount and an etching solution. This election is made without traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

In view of the Applicants' above election, Applicants respectfully submit that the Restriction Requirement has been satisfied. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination of elected Group I, Claims 1-4, 6, and 7 on the merits.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment with respect to this paper to Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket Number 107242-00035.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George E. Oram, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

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